

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-20, 22-26, 28-29, 31-41, 49-55 and 57-58 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 20, 49 and 57 are independent. Claims 42-48 and 56 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 20 have been amended. Claims 59 and 60 have been added.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Reasons Why the Finality of the Last Office Action should be Withdrawn

The Last Office Action should not have been made final, and therefore the present amendment should be entered, as of right, and considered by the Examiner. The last Office Action included a new rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, asserting that the "motor" for selectively rotating the auxiliary display is nowhere disclosed in the specification and not enabled.

The motor was recited in claim 30, as originally filed in the application. Applicant's Amendment of June 14, 2002 stated on page 10, lines 10-11, "The 'motor' recitation was originally presented in Applicant's claim 30."

Claim 30 was not rejected by the Examiner on the grounds of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph in the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002. Therefore, the

Examiner is making a new rejection based upon a new position regarding the enablement of the "motor."

In accordance with MPEP 706(a), the Examiner may not make an Office Action Final "where the examiner introduces a new grounds of rejection that is neither necessitated by applicant's amendment of the claims nor based on information submitted in an information disclosure statement." Such is the case at hand. The "motor" was the subject of original claim 30, and the "motor" was not rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The "motor" was not first introduced into the claims by the Amendment of June 14, 2002, and Applicant has not filed any IDS. Therefore, the Examiner is adopting a new and changed position regarding the motor, and the last Office Action should not have been made final.

In accordance with MPEP 706.07(d), the Final Rejection should be withdrawn and a complete action on the merits should be given to the present Amendment.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-19, 22-26, 28-29, 31-41 and 56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 112, first paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner asserts that the limitations, concerning the motor for selectively rotating the at least one auxiliary display platform relative to the primary display platform between an open position and a closed position, have

nowhere been disclosed in the specification. Therefore, the Examiner asserts that the specification does not provide an enabling disclosure, which would allow one skilled in the art to make or use the claimed invention.

On page 17, lines 5-10, the specification discloses a small motor 70 connected to the hinge and adapted to include a memory function such that the display platforms can be opened to a preset location based upon an input location. The hinge motor 70 rotates the display platforms from a closed position to an open position. The motor 70 is illustrated in Applicant's Figure 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the motor is disclosed in the specification and illustrated in the drawings. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been able to make and/or use the claimed invention.

For the reasons as stated above, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C § 102(a)

Claims 42-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(a) as being anticipated by Yamamoto. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 42-47 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection has been rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-4, 9, 11-16, 19-20, 22-26, 28, 34-39 and 49-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Failla in view of Ditzik. Claims 5-7 and 31-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Failla in view of Ohgami. Claims 10 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Failla in view of Tran. Claim 49 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto in view of Tran. Claim 17-18 and 40-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Failla in view of Gouko. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Failla shows a “flat-screen” computer monitor which is composed of plural sections. Since the flat-screen monitor is composed of plural sections, it can be stored in a compact configuration for travel. See column 1, lines 14-26.

Failla illustrates the auxiliary display platform being attached in a fixed and/or planner-manner to the primary display platform. In other words, the auxiliary display is not user selectively angled relative to the primary display. Applicant’s independent claims 1 and 20 now recite respective combinations wherein the at least one auxiliary display platform can be operated at a variety of angles relative to the primary display platform, to suit the ergonomic preferences of a user. Support for this feature of the invention can be found in the specification on at least page 9, lines 12-17, and page 15, lines 6-10.

Failla does not make any mention of allowing the auxiliary display platform to be operated at a variety of angles relative to the primary display platform. In fact, Failla teaches away from providing a variety of angles at which the auxiliary display platform can be operated. Failla directly states in column 10, line 10, that the displays must be arranged in a "predetermined use array," prior to a user viewing the display.

The "predetermined use array" is defined by compound hinges 270 which slide into guide grooves 248. The engagement of the compound hinge 270 within the guide groove 248 locks the auxiliary display into a predetermined position, e.g., aligned, with the primary display.

Ditzik has been cited for teaching a motor connected to a display. As illustrated in Ditzik's Figure 1, the motor is capable of tilting a conventional CRT display relative to a desk top surface. Ditzik fails to show or suggest a motor for selectively angling a first auxiliary display relative to a primary display. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant's dependent claims 59-60 offer an even further distinction over the prior art of record.

Ohgami has been cited as a teaching reference for turning on and turning off a display. Ohgami fails to cure the deficiencies of the references as discussed above. Tran has been cited as a teaching reference for a fiber optic connection 40. Tran fails to cure the deficiencies of the primary references, as discussed above. Gouko has been cited as a teaching reference for providing a

fourth display platform. Gouko fails to cure the deficiencies of the primary references, as discussed above.

Method Claims

The Examiner's only comments regarding Applicant's method claims 49-55 and 57-58 can be found in the final rejection on page 6, lines 17-20. The Examiner simply states that the method claims correspond in the apparatus claims and therefore they are analyzed, as previously discussed. This statement is incorrect.

The method claims recite specific method steps for displaying images on the display platforms. The apparatus claims do not specifically or inherently include these method steps. Therefore, the method claims cannot be dismissed as corresponding to the apparatus claims. Applicant has reviewed the prior art of record and sees no showing or suggestion of the specific combination of method steps recited in Applicant's claims 49-55 and 57-58. The Examiner is asked to please comment on Applicant's method claims.

Applicant's independent claim 49 recites a combination of method steps including "displaying a first image on one of said display platforms; selecting a second image for display from said first image." The selected second image is opened and displayed on the other display platform. Further, the opened second image is sized in relation to the available display space on the other

display platform to inhibit overlapping of the opened second image with other images being displayed on the other display platform.

Failla makes no reference to any such method. In fact, such a method would be counterintuitive in the computer monitor of Failla. The various embodiments of Failla's computer monitor act as components of one large overall screen. A first image selected from one section of the screen would never be opened and sized to fit another section of the screen. Such an occurrence would draw attention to the division lines between the sections of the screen. Failla would not wish to draw attention to the sections of the screen, but rather would have the components forming the screen act seamlessly.

The present invention is quite distinct, by the present invention, a user can divide and organize opened programs between various distinct screens. The opened program is sized so as to fill a maximum area of the screen, and so as not to overlap with other opened programs displayed on the same screen.

Applicant's independent method claim 57 also relates to a method of manipulating a graphical display. The method includes the steps of receiving a user's input to select a first graphic representation displayed on a first display and activating a program to be viewed on a second display, which program is associated with the selected graphical representation. Again, Failla would fail to show or suggest such a method. In Failla, an activated program would not be viewed on only one of the components of the overall display. Rather, the

program would interact seamlessly between the various components, so as to present the appearance of one seamless screen or display.

The secondary references fail to cure the deficiencies of Failla. Moreover, the prior art of record fails to cure the deficiencies of Failla.

For the reasons as stated above, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mr. Scott L. Lowe (Reg. No. 41,458) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

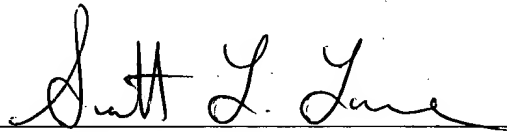
Applicant respectfully petitions under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and 1.17 for a one month extension of time in which to respond to the

Examiner's Office Action. Please charge Deposit Account 50-1602 for the Extension of Time Fee in the amount of \$110.00.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1602 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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Enclosures: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

1. Claims 42-58 and 56 have been cancelled.

Claims 59 and 60 have been added.

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A computer monitor comprising:
a primary display platform having a display screen;
at least one auxiliary display platform having a display screen; **and**
at least one hinge rotatably connecting said at least one auxiliary display platform to said primary display platform, **such that said at least one auxiliary display platform can be operated at a variety of angles relative to said primary display platform, to suit the ergonomic preferences of a user**]; and

a motor for selectively rotating said at least one auxiliary display platform relative to said primary display platform between an open position and a closed position].

20. (Twice Amended) A computer system comprising:
a processing unit;

a primary display platform, with a display screen, electrically connected with said processing unit;

at least one auxiliary display platform having a display screen; **and**

a hinge rotatably connecting said at least one auxiliary display platform to said primary display platform, **such that said at least one auxiliary display platform can be operated at a variety of angles relative to said primary display platform, to suit the ergonomic preferences of a user** ;
and

a motor for selectively rotating said at least one auxiliary display platform relative to said primary display platform between an open position and a closed position].